

# ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

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## MISCELLANY.

*From the Knickerbocker for February.*

### A RELIC OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

*A Journal of eight years hard fighting during the War for our Independence.*

BY COLONEL ALLAN M'LANE.

We have before us, through the courtesy of an obliging friend in the country, an ancient document, which can scarcely fail to interest every true American. It is the original "Journal of the War of our Independence," kept by that gallant officer, Major Allan M'Lane, father of the Hon. Louis M'Lane, late Minister to England. It was presented by the veteran writer to Gov. Bloomfield of New Jersey, the chairman and father of the Pension Law of the United States. Attached to the journal is the following original letter from Gen. Washington to the Board of War, in relation to the long and honorable service of the writer.

[L.S.] "Major Allan M'Lane, late of the Continental Army under my command, informs me that John Pierce Esq., Paymaster General, and Commissioner of the Army Accounts, doth not consider himself authorized, by the Resolution of Congress, and construction of the Honorable Board of War, to adjust his claims to half pay for life, and refers the Major to Lieut. Col. H. Lee, to be provided for with the other officers of his legion. Major M'Lane has served in the Army of the United States from the commencement of the war. Early in the year 1777, he raised a full company, which was attached to one of the sixteen additional regiments. On his joining the Continental Army, he was selected to command a party of observation; and on the incorporation of those regiments into other regiments of the several States, he was appointed to the command of Major Lee's partisan infantry, July 13, 1779, and served with great reputation in Lee's legion, till March 1781. The Major was then transferred to the army under the Baron Steuben's command in Virginia. He commanded a detachment from the Marquis De Lafayette's infantry, and under the immediate orders of the Board of War, and Commander-in-chief, till after the siege of York; and he was permitted to retire on half pay for life, on the 31st day of December, 1781.

Given under my hand and seal, at Rocky Hill, the 4th day of November, 1783.

(Signed,) "GEO. WASHINGTON.

"To the Hon. Board of War."

The "Journal" is written in the old school style of penmanship, round and bold, in occasional antique orthography, and generally in the second person. It extends through a period of 'eight years hard fighting,' and illustrates some of the darkest periods in our country's history, in a style of modest and sententious brevity, characteristic of a true hero. But the reader shall judge for himself.

"On the assembling of the first Continental Congress, M'Lane armed at his own expense, and pledged his all in support of his country. In November, 1775, he joined the Minute Men, of Virginia, under Gov. Dunmore, where he fought the enemy till January, 1776. In August of that year, he joined General Washington at New York; and when the British landed at Long Island, he was with the American infantry as a volunteer, and fought day and night, till after the bloody battle of the 29th of August, at which time he surprised and took, near Yellow Hook, five officers and fifteen privates, Bri-

tish marines, and the only prisoners taken. He passed them safely over to New York from Brooklyn, returned to Long Island in the night, joined the light infantry on the lines, and remained with Washington's army until they returned to New York. He fought all this unfortunate campaign on Harlem Heights, White Plains, in Jersey, at Trenton, and Princeton—found himself. He was soon after elevated to the rank of Captain, by Washington, and raised an hundred men with his own private funds, advancing specie for bounty. He fought hard fights at Short Hill, in Jersey, in June, 1777, and at Gray's Hill, Maryland, where he assisted the American infantry in checking the enemy, who had landed at Turkey Point, in their chase of the militia. Fought another hard battle on the 11th September, near Chadsford, on the Brandywine. Lieut. Houston and nine men fell that day.

"Gen. Washington fell back on Philadelphia, but Congress ordered him to face the enemy again, on the morning of the 16th. M'Lane skirmished with the enemy, on the Lancaster road, while Washington formed for a general action, which a heavy rain only prevented. The Lord's name be praised! for the army would have been cut to pieces. M'Lane hung upon the enemy's lines until early in October, when he moved in front of Wayne to the battle of Germantown, having previously reconnoitered the enemy's position. He made the first fire upon them from Mount Airy, and followed the retreating foe as far as the market in Germantown. After this battle, the British army retired to Philadelphia. On the night of the 4th of December, however, they moved out to surprise Washington's camp: but M'Lane, at the head of a party of observation, surprised the enemy at Hunt's Hill, and, by a close fire, harassed them all night, without the loss of one of his men. The next day at noon, he turned the enemy's right, entered Germantown, and cut off the communication between the British army and the town, for that day and night. At day-break, on the following morning, he found the enemy advancing on Washington's left, and joined Gen. Reed, while engaged with the van of the enemy; and when that officer's horse was shot under him, kept the British infantry from bayonetting him, while he had time to escape. He then followed the retreating enemy, by the Old York road, to the Globe Mill, in Front street, where he forced five hundred of them to throw off the rails from their shoulders, which they had collected near the Rising Sun Tavern, after burning the adjacent houses.

"In a few days after, (we continue the Journal,) General Washington broke up his encampment at White Marsh, moved across the Schuylkill into the woods at Valley Forge, and there halted. M'Lane was detached into the peninsula, between the Chesapeake and Delaware, at the head of a small party of horse and infantry, furnished by Gen. Smallwood, at Wilmington. He relieved both Washington's and Smallwood's armies, and on his return to his duty on the lines, in February, 1778, he fell in with Commodore Barry, at Port Penn, where he had secured four British transports at the piers. The enemy's fleet attacked Barry, and M'Lane strengthened the position with bundles of hay, from out of the transports, and kept the enemy from landing, till Barry escaped with an armed schooner. He then set fire to the transports, spiked his guns, and moved off with the British prisoners taken by Barry. He then joined Gen. Washington at Valley Forge, was detached immediately to Germantown, and hung upon the enemy's lines near the city, till they reached it. In

May, he prevented the British army from destroying Lafayette's infantry at Barren Hill Church, on the Schuylkill road. Gen. Grant had turned the Marquis's left, and got into his rear in the night, and there waited for a long column of advancing Hessians. M'Lane had been joined, in the mean time, by one hundred riflemen, from Morgan's regiment, and forty Indians. He fell in with the Hessians at Van Deran's Mill, six miles from Philadelphia, and there he amused them, till the Marquis escaped Grant's vigilance. On the 18th of June, he entered Philadelphia, at day-break, with a small party of horse and infantry; and, while the body of the British army were moving through the city to Gloucester Point, he took one captain, four sergeants, two corporals, one provost marshal, and thirty-four privates, without firing one shot.

"Before the enemy evacuated Philadelphia, M'Lane kept an account of fifty fights he had with them on the lines. He had fallen into an ambuscade of British horse and infantry, near the rocks on the Bustleton road; received the fire of the infantry; was driven to the horse; two of the troop dashed at him; he ran them off and lost sight of the troop; then turned upon the two horsemen, drove the contents of his pistol into one, and wounded the other with the empty stock, and escaped the pursuit of the ambuscade. A painting of this action is in Peale's Museum. At another time, near the Rising Sun Tavern, on the Germantown road, he attacked and beat a patrol of thirteen British horse, with two American dragoons, and wounded one of the enemy. They took the horrors and galloped off, stating to the commanding officer of the British piquet, that the d——d rebel M'Lane had ambuscaded them, and they cut their way through it, and like to have cut him up! Gen. Arnold entered the city on the 20th. Before Arnold entered the city, William West, Deputy Clothier General, also entered, and, under the authority of Gen. Arnold, purchased, at his own price, all the merchandize he could find, and disposed of the goods for the good of the concern, viz: Arnold, Commandant, James Maise, Clothier General, and William West, the deputy. This speculation tended to raise the price of goods, and to injure the character of the American officers; and, I believe, laid the foundation for Arnold's desertion to the enemy. M'Lane got possession of a copy of the contract entered into by Arnold, Maise, and West, which was in the following words:

"Whereas, by the purchasing goods and necessities for the use of the public, sundry articles not wanted for that purpose may be obtained, it is agreed by the subscribers that all such goods and merchandize, which are, or may be, bought by the Clothier General, or persons appointed by him, shall be sold for the joint benefit of the subscribers, and be purchased at their risk.

Witness our hands this 20th day of June, 1778.

(Signed,)

B. ARNOLD,  
JAMES MAISE,  
WILLIAM WEST, Jr."

"M'Lane crossed the Delaware at Cooper's Ferry in the night; closed in upon the enemy's line of march, to give protection to deserters, and before the battle of Monmouth, he had passed three hundred Hessian deserters from the British army. He joined Gen. Morgan's corps, and remained with them on the British lines till they embarked at Sandy Hook. In September, he joined Gen. Scott's Light Infantry, on the British lines, near New York Island. There he commanded a party of Indians and Infantry, till the American army re-crossed the North River, and went into winter quarters. In January, 1779, his company was ordered to join Gen. Sullivan's expedition against the Indians, near Wyoming. On this expedition, he lost his Lieut. Jones; on the 9th June, he was ordered to join Major H. Lee, near the Clove, and to command the infantry on the lines near Stony Point. He suc-

ceeded in his observations, discovered the weak side of the British works on Stony Point, by accompanying Mrs. Smith to the garrison on the 12th July, which led to a visit (on the 17th, before day-break, 1779,) from Gen. Wayne. He entered the works sword in hand; secured all in it; dismantled it, and retired, in the course of forty-eight hours! M'Lane was then ordered to Bergen Point, near Powles' Hook, where he was joined by one of his old soldiers, (Caleb Levick,) whom he had lost at the battle of Brandywine. The British had starved Caleb, till he had enlisted with them. This soldier discovered to M'Lane how the garrison at Powle's Hook might be surprised. He proved Levick's information, and communicated with Lee; formed an expedition against the Hook, and carried it in the night of 18th August, 1779, sword in hand, without any loss; turned the enemy's guns on the North River, on New York, and amused ourselves with firing into the town, then spiked the guns, and moved off with the prisoners, eighteen commissioned officers, and one hundred and eighty non-commissioned officers and privates.

"In September, M'Lane was ordered to the British lines, near Sandy Hook, Monmouth county. In October he drove the British and refugees out of the pines, on the road leading to the sea shore, where they had taken post to intercept the country people going after salt. M'Lane's party killed this fall the noted Fenton, and the Governor of Jersey presented five hundred dollars for his head, which was hung in chains at the Freehold Cross-roads. Remained on the lines, near Sandy Hook, till January, 1780, and before the winter set in, drove the enemy out of the South River. The dragoons went into winter quarters at Burlington; the infantry attacked the garrison at Sandy Hook, took it by surprise, and brought off the prisoners, with a large quantity of continental bills, to the amount of one million of dollars, and so well executed that Mr. Smith, the loan officer at Philadelphia, could not discover the difference between them and the genuine bills. In April, 1780, M'Lane moved from Jersey, at the head of his dismounted troops, to Portsmouth, in Virginia, to act on the British lines. In July, he was ordered to return to Jersey. He embarked his sick and baggage on board of a pilot boat, at his own expense; the Governor of Virginia, (Mr. Jefferson,) refusing to risk any vessel on the bay, the refugees being there in their barges, in considerable force. The infantry able to march, moved by land under the command of Capt. Armstrong. On his passage to the head of the Elk, M'Lane was attacked by Capt. Thompson, in a refugee barge, but beat him and made him and his crew prisoners. He joined the army in Jersey in August. Very active service till December. Lee, with the assistance of M'Lane, had the legion augmented by a resolution of Congress. Lee, the commanding officer, and M'Lane the next, of course. Lee prevailed on the legislature of Maryland to vote him sixty horses, and named M'Lane to purchase them. This was a trick of Lee's, to get rid of M'Lane, to make room for his friend Peyton. In January, 1781, Lee moved on with the legion to the Carolinas, leaving M'Lane in Philadelphia, purchasing horses, and recruiting the legion. The Pennsylvania and Jersey line mutinied in this month. A critical winter for America! An officer who had a family, was hard run to maintain it. It took a year's pay of a captain to purchase a cow, to give his family milk. In February, Lee organized his legion, and returned M'Lane to the Board of War as a retiring officer, under the resolution of October, 1780. M'Lane addressed Gen. Washington, and complained of Lee's trick. The general was at this time organizing the infantry under Lafayette, to move to Portsmouth, Virginia, to act with the detachment of the French fleet, expected from Rhode Island, to act against Arnold, and M'Lane was provided for, brevetted a Major, and was ordered to join the Baron Steuben, which he did on the 6th March, in Williamsburg, Virginia. The Mar-



quis's infantry was to follow in craft down the Chesapeake.

"On the 9th March, the Baron Steuben detached M'Lane with the charge of the signals at the light house, on Cape James. The British fleet appeared before the French, and a sloop of war, in disguise, under French colors, stood up the bay, to intercept the Marquis's infantry coming down, Lieut. —, a naval officer of the French fleet, took Capt. Middleton's pilot boat, and boarded the British fleet for the French, by mistake! Middleton was taken to England a prisoner. He refused to pilot the English fleet. Middleton was a good whig. Major M'Lane pulled ahead of the sloop of war, in a barge, and met the fleet in time to apprise them of their danger, for which he received the Marquis's thanks. On the 17th March, he joined Major McPherson, on the south side of James river, and acted with the light army under the command of the Marquis, till Arnold left Virginia. Then he was ordered by the Board of War to repair to Gen. Washington's head quarters, in Jersey; from thence to the South River, near Shrewsbury, with instructions to watch the enemy's movements near Sandy Hook. During this tour of duty, M'Lane crossed in a barge to Long Island, and there received the signals of the British fleet, then assembling at Sandy Hook, to relieve Cornwallis. He returned to Gen. Washington, then on the lines near York, during the siege; and, on the arrival of the British fleet off the Chesapeake, M'Lane proceeded to sea, to prove the signals, and report to Gen. Washington. The General wished the Count de Grasse to slip his cable and pursue the British fleet. The Count excused himself; at the same time they were five ships of the line inferior to that of De Grasse's. M'Lane was disappointed. He expected to see an action between the fleets. After Cornwallis's troops had marched from York, as prisoners, to the interior of Virginia, Col. Laurens proposed to M'Lane to accompany him to South Carolina, to act with a regiment of blacks, which he would engage to raise as soon as he arrived there. M'Lane would have freely accepted the offer; but as the war appeared to be near a close, and his family required his attention, he requested Col. Laurens to mention his situation to Gen. Washington, which he did. The General wished Major M'Lane to attend to the embarkation of the troops, then about to pass up the bay in bay craft, and keep in the river, in an armed boat, to prevent any of the refugees' boats from intercepting them, which he did. On the arrival of the army at Philadelphia, M'Lane was ordered into Delaware, to reconnoitre the British refugee cruisers as high as Port Pen, who were committing depredations on the shore, as well as in the bay.

"The Major was in Dover on the 31st January, 1782, when General Dickinson was alarmed at the appearance of the Fox schooner, of ten guns, from New York, said to be landing near Little Creek, within ten miles of the state-house. He reconnoitred the enemy, by direction of Gov. Dickinson; found the schooner was ashore, pressed on by the ice, closed on her with his friend Mr. John Vining, a gentleman of great spirit. Vining offered to board the schooner with the Major's flag. The captain, a refugee, immediately on Vining's presenting his flag, consulted his officers, and gave up the vessel a prize to the Major, on condition that the officers and crew should be escorted to New York, as prisoners of war, to the army of the United States, and there remain till exchanged. The Major sent off Vining in the night to obtain the Governor's flag and the militia guard. The Major had, before he closed on the schooner, ordered fires to be kindled in the woods, which had the appearance of an encampment. Vining did not return until the morning of the 1st February, 1782, too late! The vessel floated, and the wind favoring her, she was presently in deep water, and the Major had to abandon his prize, and was in danger of being

made prisoner himself. He returned to head quarters, then in Philadelphia. Gen. Washington permitted him to retire on half pay for life, under the resolution of Congress, October 21, 1780.

"Col. M'Lane commenced the commission business at Smyrna, (Delaware,) not having a dollar left of his patrimony and fortune. In March, 1783, he had two shallops laden with wheat, on the waters of Duck creek. Captain Brooks, of the refugee barge "Hookumsnivy," had on the night of the 15th, taken both vessels, and was towing them down to his rendezvous at Bombay Hook. On the morning of the 17th, before day-break, Colonel M'Lane attacked Brooks, at the head of a few of his neighbors and old soldiers, beat him, retook his shallops, and captured Brook's barge. And thus ended an eight years' war, commenced as a volunteer militia-man, and ended as such.

*From the Burlington, Vt. Free Press, Feb. 9.*

#### RESPECT TO GEN. WOOL.

Agreeable to previous arrangement a large number of our citizens, together with a number of respectable gentlemen from abroad, assembled at Howard's on Wednesday evening to pay their respects to this brave officer and respected fellow citizen. At an early hour the hall was filled, by grey-headed sires, the middle aged and the young, without distinction of party, who were severally introduced and exchanged salutations with their distinguished guest. To many of our citizens Gen. Wool was an old acquaintance, having formerly visited this section under other and very different circumstances, connected with which a multitude of interesting reminiscences suggested themselves, which were discussed in the General's free and familiar manner, much to the edification of all present. At an early hour the company repaired to the dining hall and partook of a sumptuous entertainment prepared by Mr. Howard—at which the Hon. Wm. A. Griswold presided, assisted by Guy Catlin, Esq. and Hon. Timothy Follet, as Vice Presidents.

After the removal of the cloth, the following among other sentiments, accompanied by appropriate remarks from several individuals, were received and drank to with much applause.

1. OUR COUNTRY—Let us make it what it's claimed to be—the land of the brave, the home of the free.

2. THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.—He sits in the place of political power by a right more divine than that of kings, the voice of a nation intelligent and free.

3. THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF VERMONT.

4. BRIG. GEN. JOHN E. WOOL.—The brave officer, patriotic citizen, conscientious man.

On the announcement of this toast, Gen. Wool rose and addressed the company in a few brief but appropriate remarks, expressing a lively sense of the honors conferred upon him. He alluded to the past, dwelt upon the events of the day, and touched with much felicity upon his own relation to the government and to his fellow citizens who had thus honored him on the present occasion. In conclusion, he proposed the following sentiment:

*The citizens of Burlington*—the descendants of the Green Mountain Boys. They have steadily followed in the footsteps of their forefathers—ever faithful to the principles of liberty, law and order.

5. THE MEMORY OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.—The rust of time shall not tarnish its lustre.

6. THE SURVIVING PATRIOTS OF THE REVOLUTION.

A little longer shall they stay,

A brave and fearless band.

7. THE ARMY AND THE NAVY.—Chief engines of the nation's power; let them never become our masters.

8. **THE MILITIA.**—'Tis a giant bound—let the nation loose its bonds.

9. **THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND OF THE PRESS.**—The lever that can move the world.

10. **PUBLIC SENTIMENT.**—Like the needle, sometimes admitting "degrees of variation," but pointing at last to the pole.

11. *The integrity of the Union.*—No true friend of his country can speak lightly of dissolving the Union of the States.

12. The memory of the Vermont Revolutionary *Council of Safety*, and the principles and example of the men who sustained and obeyed it.

13. *Enlightened Public Opinion*—The safeguard of republican institutions.

We regret our inability to procure in season for publication to-day the volunteer toasts offered on the occasion. Among them were many very excellent sentiments. The remarks of President Wheeler on announcing the 13th toast deserve to be printed in letters of gold, and we hope he will yet allow us the pleasure of giving them publicity.

The entertainment was in all respects a good one—harmony and good feeling prevailed throughout, and we doubt not most of the company retired happier if not better men. Indeed, we are not quite sure how many would be inclined to wink at a Canada war, if it would always bring us such friends and such cheer.

**ANECDOTE.**—The high character for benevolence which Major H\*\*\* had acquired at the metropolis, brought to his notice many hard cases, where old soldiers had suffered privation very nearly akin to actual want, before they could establish their claims at the pension office. Many of them were accustomed to make their first application to the Major. One of these claimants walked into the presence of this officer, a few years ago, covered with the dust which had accumulated in a long pedestrian march. The Major cheerfully undertook the arrangement and presentation of the claimant's papers. After official scrutiny and discouraging delay, the old soldier called to say that he would give up his claim and go home, as he came, in hopeless destitution. When the Major reached forth his hand to give, as the soldier supposed, a parting salutation, his benefactor transferred to his palm, which was a stranger to money, several hundred dollars, the entire arrears of his pension. The soldier had been afflicted with a disease in his eyes, which resulted in total blindness a few days after this transaction. His grateful sense of kindness induced him to call almost every day afterwards, during his stay in the city, as he always remarked, "to see the Major."—*Missouri Saturday News.*

*From the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer.*

**ONE WAY OF BEING PRESERVED FROM LARGE STANDING ARMIES.**—It has always been the experience of free governments like ours, that in conjunctures of great emergency, when the common welfare urgently demanded prompt measures, to shield the laws and national honor from insult, the representatives of the people have been obliged to pause and consider first,—how far public prejudice would permit them to consult public good. Especially is this the character of republican legislation in times of war, when the army and its movements are the subject of deliberation. And there is reason to apprehend, that such may be the history of Congressional action, upon the important report of the War Department this very year; for more than once already, has the honest and in the main, the salutary prejudice of the American people to a Standing Army, defeated propositions, as judicious and necessary as those which the Secretary now recommends. If that popular opposition were the off-spring of a national aversion to war, it could not be otherwise than a source of gratification to every friend of peace and morality. But with the majority it is unques-

tionably but an honest prejudice; while the Secretary of War in his late report, expresses the sentiment of all reflecting men, when he sets forth the unlikelihood that the million and a half of our militia will ever have aught to apprehend from the handful of their fellow citizens, armed for the defence of a frontier 8,000 miles in length, and scattered in insignificant garrisons, over such a stretch of savage territory.

It is not therefore on that score, that I am ever influenced in lamenting the necessity of military institutions. The unsettled and immoral habits of which large armies are the acknowledged nurseries—the infusion of a military frenzy in the national temper—the draining of the public treasury—the withdrawal of so many young and vigorous from the various works of honest industry—as real a loss to the community as if they were struck with sudden palsy, at the plough and anvil—these are real tangible evils, of sufficient magnitude to enlist every rational and virtuous man in suspicious vigilance against the increase of any institution which would encourage their growth amongst us. I do not therefore see much cause to lament that the people at large, and through them their legislators, are peculiarly sensitive on this subject. Of the two errors—a love for military show and military establishments, and our unwarranted fear of our own armed servants—the latter is the safest. But there must be danger in being moved by prejudice, even when mixed with reason in the adoption of important measures for the common weal; for if truth and prejudice happen to walk together on the same path, the companionship cannot exist long without some melancholy demonstration of the bad consequences of the fortuitous association. A blind resistance to inevitable evils, (and armies are emphatically but necessary evils,) generally results in our own defeat and complete subjection to the very object of our dread and aversion.

It seems to be the settled opinion of nearly all the military men who have been engaged in the Florida war, that if the prompt and simple steps could have been taken which a well informed officer recommended at an early period, we should have been spared the mortifying history of all our late Southern campaigns—the mustering of 10,000 men in arms to subdue the mere remnant of a savage tribe—the national expenditure of more than 20,000,000 of dollars, with a sad waste of valuable property, and melancholy sacrifice of human life. But it was not till after the war had broken out, that these precautionary measures were advised. It was to prevent that very outbreak, and preserve the country in peace, that an additional force was earnestly called for, before the savages had been rendered furious by a taste of blood.

And what is to forbid the same scenes from being acted over again on other theatres, if the same indifference is still exhibited by the citizens of the Atlantic states for the lives of their western brethren, and the fate of the red men we have driven beyond the Mississippi. Two years since no Indian tribe lived more peacefully and happily than the Seminoles. Possessing large herds of cattle and horses, with slaves held in vassalage, by something like the tenure of the serfs of feudal times, living in separate villages paying an annual tribute to their lords and masters, and liable to be called to war and the chase at their bidding, they presented to the imagination of men like old Bartram and Chateaubriand, a scene to sober minded, every-day men, of our own times, and with better means of knowing the truth, a pleasing picture of savage blended with the patriarchal life, without a shadow of the storm, that has since so completely dissipated the fair illusion. It required the murder of the unsuspecting Indian agent and the massacre at Dade's battle ground, to tear off the mask which had deceived poets, agents, soldiers and secretaries, and had led the daring officer who gave his name to that fatal field—confident in their peaceful-



ness and effeminacy—to declare that, with a hundred men he could march in triumph through the heart of the nation. And now, that 1000 ill armed Seminoles have so long set all our armies at defiance, with such loss of blood and treasure on our part, what should we not apprehend from the 45,000 warriors, who, according to the Secretary's report hang like a cloud on our frontiers? The policy of our government, begun many years since, and which has now been carried too far to be abandoned, in the words of the Governor of Arkansas, noticed doubtless by every one who has glanced over the papers of late, has "crowded upon the immediate borders of that state numerous tribes of warlike Indians, many of them brought in irons, and thus forced to become their unwelcome neighbors, with all their revengeful feelings roused against the whites, from being conquered, chained, and driven from their homes and the graves of their ancestors." If then the Indians have any rational friends in the Union; if national honor and national justice have any supporters amongst us; if large standing armies have really enemies to encounter; and honorable peace any true lovers; let them unite in fathering the council of the Secretary, to raise a respectable regular force, to be posted among the Southwestern tribes, and along the border, not in such contemptible numbers as to invite hostility, and cherish suspicion—but as powerful and dignified ministers of peace, able to protect the simple minded Indian against the disgraceful machinations of insidious white men, and to defend the exposed frontier settlements from the sudden horrors of Indian massacre.

The relation in which the officers of the regular army have always stood to the Indians among whom they have been posted, has with scarce an exception been honorable to both parties. Before the Seminole war, the kindest feelings were mutually cherished on both sides; the savages viewing the troops as the friends of peace and justice, as ready to check any infringement of their rights by the border settlers, as to prevent Indian depredations upon the property of the whites. And so it always will be as long as officers are educated, moral men, even while pinched by poor circumstances, too honorable to make their office a screen for easy peculation. But the popular prejudice to regular troops—though coinciding by chance, with the rational objections which every enlightened citizen must entertain to overgrown warlike establishments—has oftentimes operated very injuriously upon the individuals who compose our regular army, and contributed to impair the efficiency even of the trifling force which it now barely tolerates. It could only have been under the shield of that popular prepossession, that our officers within a few years past have been so far mortified, and I may almost say insulted, as to be denied appointments in a new corps, which they conceived, some 10 years service, the natural course of things, and the special usages of war, entitled them to. I allude to the assignment of persons, out of the army, not at all connected with it, to elevated posts, to the prejudice of old officers who had served honorably during the last war with England and since that event in various Indian campaigns. It needs no argument to show what a blow such a course must inflict upon military discipline, how it must wound the honest pride and wither the hopes of every officer in the army, where the great spur of virtuous action and promoter of good feeling, in the absence of the stimulants which belong to civil life, is the hope of honorable advancement to rank in their profession.

#### FRENCH VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD.

The *Armorica*, a Brest paper, contains the following account of the voyage of the *Bonite*, the first French vessel that has circumnavigated the globe since the revolution of July:—

The sloop *Bonite*, armed with twenty-two 24 pounders and two 12 pounders, and carrying a crew of 151

men, under the command of M. Auguste Vaillant, Capitaine de Corvette, left Toulon on the 8th of February, 1836. The *Bonite* carried out consuls to Chili, Ecuador, and the Philippines, so that at the time of the departure of the sloop the individuals embarked on board amounted in number to 162.

In order to render this voyage useful to the cause of science, Government decided that the vessel should complete a voyage round the globe, and persons were put on board, qualified, in concurrence with the officers, to satisfy the demands contained in the instructions drawn up by the Academy of Science. M. Guadichaud, therefore, Pharmaceutic Professor to the navy, who had previously sailed round the world in *L'Uranie*, and M. Dorandean, Hydrographical Engineer, embarked on board the *Bonite*, the former to devote himself to botanical investigations, the latter to occupy himself, along with the officers of the sloop, with hydrographical works, and observations of terrestrial magnetism.

We learn also from the *Annales Maritimes*, that to M. Eydoux, Naval surgeon of the first class, and who sailed round the world in the *Favourite*, Captain Vaillant entrusted the zoological section; to M. Chevalier, Ensigne de Vaisseau, the geological section; and to M. Fouchard, an officer of the same rank, the astronomical department. M. Lauvergne, who had been twice round the world in the *Astrolabe* and the *Favourite*, was engaged as draughtsman to the expedition.

The *Bonite*, on leaving France, proceeded to Cadiz, and thence to Brazil. After a short stay at Rio Janeiro, she visited Montevideo and the Rio de la Plata. After leaving that river, she sailed along the coast of Patagonia and Terra del Fuego, doubled Cape Horn in the middle of winter, and arrived at Valparaiso. The *Bonite* successively touched at Gobija, Lima, Payta, and reached Puna in Guayaquil. From the latter port, Capt. Vaillant took his departure for the Sandwich Islands. It was his intention, we are told, to have taken the Archipelago of the Gallipagos on his way, in order to draw up a correct chart of these islands; but the continual south and south-west winds, and the strong currents from the north, prevented him from putting into execution a design which would have been most useful, the position of those islands being as yet but imperfectly known.

The expedition, accordingly, proceeded towards the Sandwich Islands. After visiting the ports of Karakakao and Kailona, in the island of Owyhee, the vessel repaired to Honolulu, the capital of the kingdom, in the island of Wahoo. On leaving the Sandwich Isles, the *Bonite* sailed to the Philippines, traversing the Marianas by the channel of the Assumption. Capt. Vaillant, having satisfied himself that the Mangs rocks do not exist there, as some navigators have imagined, continued his course to the Philippines. He arrived at Manilla in December, 1836, and, having landed the consul, sailed for China. He made Macao on the 1st of January, 1837, and after some stay sailed for Cochin China; he remained for some time at the port of Touranne, and then sailed through the straits of Malacca.

The *Bonite* touched at Singapore, whence she proceeded to Malacca, and from the latter place to the Prince of Wales's island. Thence she continued her course towards Bengal, and sailed up the Ganges, to within 30 miles of Calcutta. Capt. Vaillant greatly regretted that his instructions prohibited his visiting the metropolis of British India.

On leaving the Ganges, after having made the most interesting observations of terrestrial magnetism, the *Bonite* sailed for Pondicherry, running along the coast of Orixá, Golconda, and Coromandel. After a tedious navigation against the trade wind, she arrived at the chief settlement of the French dominions in India. Capt. Vaillant caused all the scientific works to be repeated, which had been executed at every port where he made any stay since leaving Europe.

He then sailed for Isle Bourbon, where he arrived on the 11th July last.

Thus at the end of eighteen months of an active and most fatiguing navigation, the sloop had almost effected her circuit of the globe; she completed it by returning to France by the way of the Cape of Good Hope.

The voyage which the Bonite has just accomplished, presents one most remarkable fact. Notwithstanding the murderous climates she has visited, notwithstanding the sudden transitions of temperature to which her crew has been exposed, notwithstanding the activity of a navigation frequently impeded by gales, tempests, and contrary winds, she has not had to deplore the loss of a single individual embarked on board of her, either among her numerous passengers, her officers, or her crew. No serious illness manifested itself, with the exception of some cases of scurvy towards the close of the voyage.

This gratifying circumstance is principally due to the enlightened plan acted on by M. Eydoux, Surgeon Major, to the assiduous cares of the second Surgeon, M. Souleyet, and to the medical precautions constantly observed on board of the vessel. The perfect harmony which prevailed among the officers and the crew, and the unceasing care of the commander of the vessel, contributed also, no doubt, to so satisfactory a result; he succeeded in enforcing at all times the most exact cleanliness, and made his men dress by night as well as by day, according to the variations of the thermometer, he kept them constantly occupied, endeavored to procure them every comfort compatible with the confinement of a ship, and (a thing unheard of in the case of a French crew) he never allowed them to land. The greatest care was also taken to preserve the most scrupulous cleanliness in the lower parts of the vessel, and to expel every offensive smell, constantly renewing the air by means of ventilations and perfumes.

To have performed such a voyage, without losing a single man, is a fact which, considering the number of the crew, will form an epoch in the maritime history of European nations. Nor must we omit to observe, that no accident occurred to the vessel herself during the twenty-one months of her absence from France.

#### (CIRCULAR.)

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Jan. 30, 1838.

SIR: The President of the United States having approved regulations for determining the complements of officers and other persons which may be allowed to different classes of vessels in the navy, and the pay to be allowed to petty officers and persons of inferior ratings, as proposed by the Board of Navy Commissioners, by direction of this Department, a copy of the same is herewith transmitted for your information, and for the information of those under your command, and for your and their government, under the following explanations and restrictions as to the time when they are to take effect.

So far as relates to the numbers designated, the regulations are to take effect upon their receipt, for vessels which may be hereafter ordered into commission, or which, having been placed in commission, have not yet left the United States to commence a cruise; and for all such vessels, and for all receiving vessels, navy yards, or other establishments within the United States, the rate of pay, as established by these regulations, is to take effect from the 1st day of April next.

The complement of all vessels which shall have sailed to commence a cruise before the receipt of this order shall continue, as heretofore established, until their return to the United States to be extensively repaired, or to be paid off; and the former rate of pay of persons belonging to vessels which shall have thus sailed previously to the receipt of this order, shall be continued until the expiration of their present term of service, and discharge from the Navy.

I am, very respectfully,

MAHLON DICKERSON.

A TABLE showing the number of persons for the war complements of the different classes of vessels of the Navy of the United States.

RANK, OR RATINGS.	hips of the line.			Razee	Frigates		Sloops		Brigs or schr.	Monthly pay in dollars	
	3 decks	2 decks			1st class	2d class	1st class	2d class			
		1st class	2d class								
Captain	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	As established by law.	
Commander*	1	1	1	-	-	-	or 1	1	-		
Lieut. Com'g	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
Lieutenants	11	8	8	7	6	5	4	4	2		
Master	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Surgeon	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Purser	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Chaplain	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-		
Second Master	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Ass't Surgeons	4	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1		
Passed Mid'n	36	27	24	21	20	16	10	8	5		
Masters Mates, being warrant officers, and											
Midshipmen											
Boatswain											
Gunner											
Carpenter	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Sailmaker	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Prof. of Math.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Clerk	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Master's Mate, not being war- rant officers	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		25
Yeoman											
Boats'n's Mates	6	6	6	5	4	3	2	2	2		† 19
Gun'r's Mates	6	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1		19
Carp'tr's Mates	4	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1		19
Master at-arms	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		19
Ship's Cook	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18	
Quartermasters	12	10	10	9	7	6	4	4	3	18	
Quartermasters	24	18	18	14	10	8	4	4	3	15	
Capt. of Fore- castle	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	18	
Capt. of Tops	9	9	9	8	6	6	4	4	-	15	
Coxswain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	
Armorer	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	18	
Cooper	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	15	
Ship's Steward	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18	
Officer's Stew- ards	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	18	
Surg. Steward	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	18	
Sailmaker's Mates	2	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	15	
Capt. of Hold	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	-	15	
Officer's Cooks	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	15	
Ship Corporals	3	2	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	15	
Master of the Bands	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	18	
Seamen	300	240	220	200	150	120	55	50	17	12	
Ord'y Seamen	350	250	180	140	100	70	38	33	12	10	
Musicians, 1st Class	8	6	6	6	4	3	-	-	-	12	
2d Class	6	5	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	10	
Landsmen	250	150	130	110	60	45	20	14	7	9	
Boys	78	56	49	37	24	20	12	10	6	8 to 6	
Total, except- ing Marines,	1140	830	710	610	430	340	179	159	70		
MARINES.											
Capt. or superi- or Officer	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	As established by law.	
Lieutenants	2	2	2	1	1	1	-	-	-		
Sergeants	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	-		
Corporals	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	-		
Drummer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Fifer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Privates	48	48	48	31	31	21	10	10	-		
Total of Ma- rines	60	60	60	40	40	30	16	16	-		
Total war com- plements	1200	890	770	650	470	370	195	175	70		

\* If no commander is placed in a ship of the line, then one additional lieutenant.



† PAY.—In ships of the line \$40 per month; in frigates \$35 per month; sloops of war \$25 per month; schooners \$18 per month.

The foregoing table shows the full complement of officers, petty officers, seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen, boys, and marines, which may be allowed to vessels of the Navy. The whole number of petty officers and persons of inferior ratings is not to be increased in any case, nor must the number in any particular rating be exceeded, unless it be to make up an existing deficiency in some higher rating, except by special order of the Secretary of the Navy.

When the commander of a squadron is also the commander of any particular vessel, he is to be borne as part of her complement; but if he does not command a particular vessel, then he is to be borne in addition to the complement of the vessel in which he is embarked.

The following persons may also be borne, in addition to the complement of vessels in which the commander of a squadron is borne, viz: a captain of a fleet, when authorized by the regulations of the navy; a flag lieutenant, a secretary, a clerk, and a coxswain; and when he does not command the vessel, a steward, a cook, and three domestics. With a commander of a squadron, when not commanding-in-chief, a flag lieutenant, a secretary, and a coxswain; and when he does not command the vessel, a steward, a cook, and two domestics. When a captain of a fleet is borne, then one steward and two domestics, in addition to those of the commander of the squadron.

NAVY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, Dec. 9, 1837.

I. CHAUNCEY,

*President of the Board of Navy Commissioners.*

To the honorable MAHLON DICKERSON,

*Secretary of the Navy.*

Respectfully submitted to the President of the United States, January 20, 1838.

MAHLON DICKERSON,

*Secretary of the Navy.*

APPROVED, January 20, 1838.

M. VAN BUREN.

There is a very general feeling in the army, and especially among the officers, that the pay, both of officers and men, is too small. We think so too. The pay of a captain is less than that of a journeyman printer in this city, though, to be sure, there is this difference, that the former is *subsisted* at the expense of the Treasury, while the latter is not. When, however, we consider the arduous nature of military service, and the education and talent required on the part of the officers, and when we further consider that the entire pay of a private for fourteen years (which we presume is more than the average of a soldier's life,) would scarcely amount to \$1,000, the wonder is, not that there are resignations, desertions, and complaints of the difficulty of procuring enlistments, but that there is any army at all. We hope Congress will look into this matter without delay. The demands of justice, as well as the interests of the country, require it. —*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

### SELECTED POETRY.

*From the Philadelphia Gazette.*

The following beautiful verses are from the pen of a noble Spanish poet, Angel de Saavedra, Duke of Rivas. The subject is one which, like that of "The Storm Painter in his Dungeon," by another high spirit of modern days, awakens lofty thought, and demands expressive language.

#### ODE TO THE LIGHTHOUSE AT MALTA.

The world in dreary darkness sleeps profound—  
The storm clouds hurry on, by hoarse winds driven,  
And night's dull shades and spectral mists confound  
Earth, sea, and heaven.

King of surrounding Chaos! thy dim form  
Rises with fiery crown upon thy brow,  
To scatter light and peace amid the storm,  
And life bestow.

In vain the sea with thundering waves may peal,  
And burst beneath thy feet in giant sport,  
Till the white foam, in snowy clouds conceal  
The sheltering port.

Thy flaming tongue proclaims—"Behold the shore!"  
And voiceless hails the weary pilot back,  
Whose watchful eyes, like worshippers, explore  
Thy shining track.

Now silent night a gorgeous mantle wears—  
By sportive winds the clouds are scatter'd far,  
And lo! with starry train the moon appears  
In circling car.

While the pale mist that thy tall brow enshrouds,  
In vain would veil thy diadem from sight,  
Whose form colossal seems to touch the clouds  
With starlike light.

Ocean's perfidious waves may calmly sleep,  
Yet hide sharp rocks—the cliff, false signs display:  
And luring lights, far flashing o'er the deep,  
The ship betray:

But thou, whose splendor dims each lesser beam—  
Whose firm, unmoved position might declare  
Thy throne a monarch's—like the north star's gleam,  
Reveals each snare.

So reason's steady torch, with light as pure,  
Dispels the gloom when stormy passions rise;  
Or Fortune's cheating phantoms would obscure  
The soul's dim eyes!

Since I am cast by adverse fortunes here,  
Where thou presidest o'er this scanty soil,  
And bounteous heaven a shelter grants to cheer  
My spirit's toil:

Frequent I turn to thee, with homage mute,  
Ere yet each troubled thought is calm'd in sleep,  
And still thy gem-like brow my eyes salute  
Above the deep.

How many now may gaze on this sea shore,  
Alas! like me, as exiles doom'd to roam!  
Some who, perchance, would greet a wife once more,  
Or children's home!

Wanderers, by poverty or despots driven  
To seek a refuge, as I do, afar,  
Here find at last, the sign of welcome given—  
A hospitable star!

And still to guide the barque it calmly shines—  
The barque that from my native land oft bears  
Tidings of bitter griefs and mournful lines  
Written with tears.

When first thy vision flashed upon my eyes,  
And all its dazzling glory I beheld,  
Oh! how my heart, long used to miseries,  
With rapture swell'd!

Inhospitable Latium's shores were lost,  
And, as amid the threatening waves we steer'd,  
And near to dangerous shoals, by tempests tost,  
Thy light appear'd.

No saints the fickle mariners then praised,  
But vows and prayers forgotten with the night;  
While from the silent gloom the cry was raised—  
"Malta in sight!"

And thou wert like a sainted image crown'd,  
Whose forehead bears a shower of golden rays,  
Which pilgrims, seeking health and peace, surround  
With holy praise.

Never may I forget thee. One alone  
Of cherish'd objects shall with thee aspire,  
King of the Night! to match thy lofty throne  
And friendly fire.

That vision still with sparkling light appears  
In the sun's dazzling beams at matin hour,  
And is the golden angel memory rears  
On Cordova's proud tower!

WASHINGTON CITY;  
THURSDAY, ..... MARCH 1, 1838.

We are happy to learn that Adjutant General JONES has so far recovered from his late accident as to be able to resume the duties of his office.

Next to the increase of the subscription list, the best evidence of the estimation in which a paper is held is the number of original contributions offered for it. In the latter respect, we have abundant cause for gratulation, as the present and several preceding numbers will testify. It is to be hoped that the spirit and industry of our correspondents will not flag.

**FLORIDA WAR.**—We received by the express mail yesterday, a slip from the office of the Savannah Georgian of the 22d ult., announcing the arrival of the steamboat John McLean from Black creek, with rumors of the capture of a large body of Indians (4 or 500) by Gen. Jesup. This rumor wants confirmation. The annexed extracts of letters from officers of the army to gentlemen in Washington, furnish the latest authentic intelligence we have seen.

*Extract of a letter from an officer of the army, dated*  
"GAREY'S FERRY, Feb. 14, 1838.

"The express last night from Tampa Bay brought letters stating that twenty one Indians and one hundred and three negroes had come into that post. Of this there is no doubt. It is farther stated that Gen. Nelson had killed nine and taken fifteen; and that Gen. Smith had a large body of Indians, men, women, and children, surrounded on an island. If it is true, it will no doubt go far to end the war.

"Gen. Jesup left Jupiter inlet on the 5th, and proceeded south. Gen. Eustis's command takes the same direction by a road a little further west, and Col. Taylor as near to Lake Ochee-chobee as possible. Col. Pierce, with the 1st arty., has gone far south, to come up and meet the other troops. A post has been established at Key Biscayenne, and one at Cape Sable. It really does seem as if something must be done before long."

*Extract of another letter, dated*

"BLACK CREEK, Feb. 13, 1838.

"On the 3d inst. Lieut. Powell, of the navy, was ordered to Cape Florida with schooners and his own boats, where he was to be met by the column under the commanding General. They expect to form a junction at Rio Ratones. Col. Taylor was about 20 miles N. W. of the camp on Jupiter inlet."

**THE NAVY.**—In our columns to-day will be found three bills, reported by the Committee on Naval Affairs in the House, which are of importance to the naval service. They are

No. 574—For reducing under one head of appropriation various appropriations for building &c. vessels of war.

No. 572—To alter and regulate the navy ration.

No. 573—To regulate the pay and emoluments of pursers.

This method of partial legislation is liable to serious objections, as it provides for only one branch of the service, when all, or nearly all, require revision.

The effect will be, at no very distant day, as in the case of bill No. 571, a necessity for consolidating all the laws into one, from the inconvenience of acting under the authority of so many separate laws.

The whole navy needs revision and organization, and the attention of Congress could scarcely be drawn to a subject involving more serious consequences than that of the means of defence of the country.

Those who despair of ever seeing the subject of national defence brought to the consideration and action of Congress at one view—or who believe that the attention of the legislative body cannot be diverted from party politics or questions of privilege, contempt and contested elections—may be satisfied with accomplishing their purpose by piecemeal; and it may be better so than not at all. But a liberal, comprehensive, and united legislation would certainly be the best, and in the end the most economical as well as the most effectual.

It may not be known to all, but it certainly is to every naval officer, that the navy has been for a long time without any (or at least with but a nominal) code of rules and regulations. The rules adopted in 1818—twenty years ago—are almost a dead letter. Attempts have since been made to devise a new system of rules and regulations, but have never progressed so far as to be promulgated or adopted.

**TARGET SHOOTING.**—The superiority of Americans as marksmen, is proverbial, and they might challenge the world for rivals.

A very handsome volunteer corps, called the "Washington Guards," was raised a year or two since in New Orleans, and is strictly governed by the rules and regulations of the U. S. army. This company is composed of five sergeants, five corporals, and seventy-three privates, and its officers are

Charles F. Hozey, Captain,

Frederick Wilkinson, (late of the U. S. A.) 1st Lieutenant,

Frederick Jordy, second Lieutenant,

John B. Allen, third Lieutenant,

This corps recently had a shooting match, the prize a handsomely embellished musket. The target was placed at the distance of one hundred and forty yards, and Corporal N. Dupureau fired three times and put the three balls within four inches of the bull's eye. Private Hough put six out of nine balls into the bull's eye. When it is recollected that this is musket and not rifle shooting, it may be called pretty fair. If any one else can beat it, we shall be happy to "chronicle" the achievement.

**FRENCH EXPLORING EXPEDITION.**—While we have been talking about and fitting out an expedition to the South Seas, which has not yet sailed, it will be seen by an extract from a Brest newspaper in a preceding column, that the French ship Bonite has performed a voyage round the world and returned in safety to Brest, after an absence of nearly two years, without accident or the loss of a man out of a crew of 151 souls, besides 11 others taken on board as passengers and landed at different ports on the voyage.



## PASSENGERS.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 18, per steam packet Georgia, from Norfolk, Major A. D. Stuart, of the army.  
Per steam packet North Carolina, for Wilmington, (N. C.) Lieut. T. B. Linnard, U. S. Army.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

## GENERAL JESUP, THE SECRETARY OF WAR, AND THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

MR. EDITOR: It is well known that the appointment of Mr. POINSETT, as Secretary of War, in March last, infused new hopes, and re-awakened confidence in every part of the army, and especially in Florida. A permanent head to the Department, endowed with the requisite qualities, was needed to give full force to the salutary influence such a cabinet officer is calculated to exert over the military arm of the Government. Mr. POINSETT entered upon his duties, as we believe, animated with the best possible spirit towards every branch of the service, and determined especially to lend every assistance in his power to the prompt, vigorous and successful prosecution of operations in the field. We think it must be conceded that in this he has thus far fulfilled all our expectations. With comprehensive views of the wants of the army, and of the elevated character and scientific qualifications which its officers should possess, he likewise manifested, at an early date, his liberality towards the Military Academy. The Superintendent of that institution had been applying, for years, for the detail of officers needed for various duties essential to the proper administration of its affairs. In July last, the Secretary of War caused that detail to be made. Two, out of the eight officers named in the order, were then on duty in Florida. In reply to this detail, it appears that Major General Jesup writes to the Department on the 13th August, 1837, as follows, being extracted (as stated in your columns of the 8th February,) from the correspondence lately printed by order of the Senate:

"It may truly be said that the spirit of the service is gone or fast going, when officers of respectable standing can be found ready to abandon the high and honorable duties of their profession to become *schoolmasters* at West Point. This circumstance augurs worse for the army than any thing I had before witnessed. By the way, I cannot perceive how under the laws as they exist, you can take any but engineer officers for service as teachers. While the Government encourages, or even permits, officers to be so employed, it is impossible that the army can improve."

We confess that we read this with unfeigned astonishment. \* \* \* Such then is the liberality of an American General, commanding the armies of this flourishing republic, in the pride of its glory, and in the nineteenth century! Such is the encouragement he would give to the Military Academy, the blood of whose graduates has crimsoned almost every battle-field of that war in which he is engaged; and an institution of which this nation ever has been, and, I trust, ever will be, proud! Such is the sneer he chooses to bestow upon the Engineer corps of the U. S. Army, a corps which would do signal honor to the proudest nations on the globe! Such is the estimate he would place upon liberal accomplishments in a profession to which he finds himself attached; accomplishments which should be fostered by every officer who has any pride in that profession! And such is the remonstrance and the counsel which the general, a subordinate, sends back to the Secretary, to encourage or enlighten him in the discharge of his duties!

It remains for the Department to form its own opinion how far such a communication comports with discipline or propriety.

No one can insist more strenuously than we would, that every officer of the army should, so far as it is practicable, be on duty with his company. For suc-

cessful military action it is all important that the companies should be full and well officered. It is one of the best features of the bill which has lately passed the Senate, that it separates the staff-departments from the line, and would thus allow the above named object to be compassed without injury to any part of the service.

But we would make issue with Gen. Jesup, and insist that no where in the subordinate grades of the army has ought been done by them which should cause the "spirit of the service" to disappear. We might call Heaven to witness that we must look above and beyond them, for causes which have at any time darkened the spirit and prospects of the army. Among other potent causes, might we not point to a certain letter, written on the 20th June, 1836, which, linked to other acts of its author, still broods like an incubus upon our good fame? Have they not led many an impartial observer to make the *erroneous* supposition that the stars and stripes of our glorious ensign, or, in other words, the pride and chivalry of the profession, have been desecrated and torn to atoms?

We would challenge contradiction from every quarter, when we assert that the graduates of the Military Academy have, in every way, proved themselves to be good soldiers. In testimony of this it is needless for us to point to the heroic conduct of those noble spirits whose fate it has been to fall upon that war-girt Peninsula: such as Thompson, Dade, Gardiner, Basinger, Izard, Mudge, Brooke, Center, Keais, Henderson, and Van Swearingen. They have not only been prompt and intrepid in the field, but subordinate and well-disciplined in every sphere of duty. Perhaps the Commanding General in Florida little knows how much he is indebted to the correct notions of those officers for the hearty co-operation he received at their hands when he was invested with the command under circumstances so well calculated to pre-judice all against a General who could thus supplant his superior in command. There is every reason to believe that the prevailing feeling has been, according to the true doctrines of subordination, that all are bound, not only to discharge their duties faithfully, but also to defend and support, so far as truth and justice will allow, the officer in command. This course requires some restraint upon personal feelings, at least during the period of active operations; and this self-denial will be practised in all efficient and well organized armies. We doubt whether, in a body of officers fraught with a less rigid sense of military propriety, the inflammatory materials for a disgraceful outbreak might not have found an explosion, upon more than one occasion in Florida. The circumstances under which both Gen. Jesup and his "bosom friend," Gov. Call, assumed the command, were well calculated to exasperate any high-minded, and high-spirited body of gentlemen. Moreover, another spectacle had been exhibited to them, viz: that after the latter had been foisted upon the army and surreptitiously placed in command, the former, a major general in their own body, even "volunteered" to serve under him. We are unable to say whether this was by way of penitence before the people; so that, by submitting to the command of a territorial governor, he might atone for his supplanting, in a very irregular manner, his senior, a general of the regular army, and once an "ancient friend."

We again insist that it has not been owing to the subordinate grades of the army, whether graduates of the Military Academy or not, that difficulties have occurred in the military system. It is true that passing events have taught them many a useful lesson. The heart and material of the service have in general remained sound, and have only required proper control and encouragement from the executive, from Congress, and from those in command.

We have always been of opinion that hasty and uncharitable conclusions should not be formed as to the

conduct of a general in the field, while the sword is yet in his hand, and he has no chance to make his own defence. It does not become those who are removed many hundred miles from the scene of operations, to condemn, upon feeble evidence, measures which may have been adopted only as a choice of evils. Far be it from us to desire, while Gen. Jesup is still hot in the chase, to take unfair advantage of his absence. The soldier's fame at home should not be wantonly assailed while he is striving to gain laurels for his country, in close contact with a distant foe. But it has been Gen. Jesup's misfortune to cause his *own pen* to be his worst enemy, and often thus to force these discussions upon the public. He has contrived to write himself out of favor in almost every quarter.

His correspondence, as lately printed by order of the Senate, only confirms this conclusion. He "stakes his own reputation" in defence of that blundering and notoriously incompetent commander, Gov. Call, who, according to Gen. J.'s recorded opinion, ought to have ended the war "in all October," 1836. Finding the Seminoles "slow in their movements" towards Tampa Bay, in May, 1837, he all at once recommends that the country be abandoned to the Seminoles; a course which the Secretary very plainly tells him is opposed to sound policy, enlightened justice, and the honor of our arms. With strange inconsistency, in another part of this correspondence, he reports that if the war is not soon terminated, the Indian negroes will foment fearful troubles among the blacks in all that region, and therefore urges that the campaign be vigorously prosecuted.

For the honor of the country we trust that he cannot be justly charged with treachery towards Ocoola and those who accompanied the Cherokee chiefs. A far better explanation of the former case is desirable, than his awkward defence published in October last. Even the plausible statements of the delegate from Florida, on the floor of Congress, present these matters in but a questionable shape. To use Gen. Jesup's own words, "it is impossible that the army can improve" while officers can employ themselves in introducing such novel and barbarian methods of warfare. We are of opinion that the old-fashioned and civilized notions of the forms of intercourse, which should obtain with a savage foe, are the only ones which can be upheld by good policy, propriety, or the voice of the people.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, let us hope that any scheme for "improving" the condition of the army may never be executed in accordance with the professed views of the General so often named in this communication, lest we should all at once retrograde to the dark ages, and adopt a creed of military faith and practice which it would be difficult for our consciences to digest. Until that takes place, our perceptions never can be so blunt or unrefined as to elevate that officer into a model for the humble imitation of subordinates; or fail to feel acutely the unjust inferences which are made from the line of conduct he has thought proper to pursue.

Let us hope that a lively *esprit du corps* may yet be awakened, and the efforts of the War Department may yet succeed in elevating and improving the prospects of the service, in spite of all the obstacles which may stand in its way. We believe that the main thing now wanting to accomplish this desirable object, is the fostering legislation of Congress.

OMICRON.

#### GEN. JESUP AND THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

MR. EDITOR: On taking up the Army and Navy Chronicle, a few days ago, I read, with surprise and mortification the following extract from a letter of Gen. Jesup to the Secretary of War: [Adjutant General:]

"It may truly be said, the spirit of the service is gone; or fast going, when officers of respectable standing can

be found ready to abandon the high and honorable duties of their profession to become schoolmasters at West Point. This circumstance augurs worse for the army than any thing I had before witnessed. By the way, I cannot perceive how, under the laws as they exist, you can take any but engineer officers for service as teachers. While the Government encourages, or even permits, officers to be so employed, it is impossible that the army can improve."

I was surprised that an officer who has been so many years associated with intelligent and honorable men, and who has acquired so much reputation by his gallant deeds, should still be so influenced by prejudice as to be capable of indulging in such ungenerous remarks. I felt mortified that any officer, and especially one so high in rank, should have exposed himself thus to public ridicule and contempt. Had these remarks fallen from some overgrown dolt, in a country school, where the ignorant boor sometimes consoles himself for his want of brains and learning by affecting to despise the occupation of his instructor, they might have been considered in taste and character. But that any man of common intelligence should pretend to look down with contempt upon the professors of our scientific institutions is to me a matter of surprise. I presume that Gen. Jesup will have the whole honor of having originated this generous and enlightened idea.

I am not aware that the professors or teachers of our scientific institutions have ever been conscious of being engaged in occupations either unworthy or disreputable. The professors and assistant professors of the Military Academy are certainly very far from considering themselves disgraced, either as men or officers, by accepting the appointments they now hold. It strikes me as not very becoming for officers engaged in different duties to abuse each other because they happen to be differently employed. But if a comparison must be made, it would be gratifying to know by what process of reasoning Gen. Jesup can make it appear that duties at the Military Academy are less important than elsewhere, in maintaining discipline or giving the proper tone and spirit to the army. It would be very much like proving that the fountain is less important than the stream which flows from it.

That the duties at the Military Academy have been always considered among the most important in the army, that officers have been selected to perform them with reference to their peculiar qualifications, and that they have felt themselves honored when thus selected, is too notorious to need remark. That the army is greatly indebted to the institution for its pride, spirit, and scientific attainments, is also known to the country at large.

It would be as useless to dwell upon points so well understood, as it is for Gen. Jesup to sneer, in this age of the world, upon the pursuits of learning.

AN OFFICER OF THE ARMY.

#### GEN. JESUP AND THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

MR. EDITOR: Your correspondent "West Point," in last week's Chronicle, has expressed warmly the indignation called forth in him by the supposed sarcasm of Gen. Jesup upon the occupation of the officers on duty at the Military Academy. The paragraph upon which "West Point" comments, with such severity, is, without doubt, open to animadversion; but then it bears evident marks of having been written in a splenetic mood, and is therefore entitled to considerable allowance; for the General has had quite enough to vex his spirit lately, and probably, also, some just grounds of anger. Few dispositions are so well balanced as to be angry and wise at the same moment; charity should therefore incline us to visit lightly the follies committed at such times, reserving the full measure of retribution for acts of baseness perpetrated with deliberation.

The General's *savoir faire* is too well known to allow us to suppose that he would intentionally have committed himself in this manner in a public docu-



ment; for the most hasty reflection would have shown him, that if his words were intended as a sarcasm on the officers alluded to, they were very silly; and if as a sneer on the vocation of schoolmasters, they exhibited, like all sarcasms on professions, not only the veriest wantonness of folly, but, also, exceeding bad taste. It is difficult to conceive of a person, holding the station of General Jesup, descending to indulge in puerile common places against a class of men because they had enjoyed the advantages of an education, which he had not. Such a course may suit the object of a vulgar leveller; but, for the honor of the profession to which he belongs, such, certainly, could not have been the General's course. Evil as may be the days upon which we have fallen, in this respect, still there is hope in the reflection, that the schoolmaster has been too long abroad for any clamorous decrifier of knowledge to be now able to screen himself from the imputation of being nothing better than an impudent pretender, who would hide his own ignorance by defaming others. The General is certainly too well read not to know that Bacon, before he overthrew the philosophy of the schools, first made himself thoroughly conversant with it; and it is hoped that he is also too skilful a tactician to make an attack on the enemy's position in perfect ignorance of its most essential points.

With respect to the officers on duty at the Military Academy, the General must be apprised that they are selected for the duties they are performing, upon the recommendation of those who are supposed to be competent judges of their qualifications; and that they are ordered to perform these duties, not on their own application for them, but from these recommendations. To obey or disobey the order is not left to their choice, although it is presumed that the duty would not be made compulsory, except in a case of necessity. Whether these duties are within the strict line of their profession, and whether they may be legally assigned to them, I must leave to others more competent than myself to decide; but it seems to me that these officers are not more without the line of their duties, nor further beyond the intention of the law, than the General himself is in his present station. In the military schools of other countries, similar duties are performed by officers, who are carefully selected for them, and to be so chosen, is considered a mark of distinction; here, at least, is the respectable authority of the custom of other services for what obtains in our own.

To pretend to defend the officers on duty at the Military Academy from the obloquy that ought to attach to them for descending to teach, or, as the General expresses it, for becoming schoolmasters, would be a contempt of decency and common sense, which, probably, even the General would condemn.

Why the possession of acquirements should be considered an honorable distinction, and should advance their possessor, whilst the imparting of them to others should lower him in the regard of the world, is an anomaly which I must leave to the General for explanation.

To the graduates of the Military Academy, and especially to the younger ones, a comrade of some years service would commend patience, and as much indifference as they can assume under the repeated and uncalled for attacks so unjustly made upon them; and he would suggest to them, to leave to time, to their own actions, and to the sense of justice which ever pervades the mass of a people, however devoid of it individuals may seem to be, to vindicate their cause. The events of a few short months have sadly, but honorably, silenced the illiberal sneers of those who pretended to think that education disqualified the graduate for the hour of trial in battle. This is a triumph that should, however, be modestly borne. Those actions must be left to speak for them-

selves; and that they will be heard, let none doubt. There is more poetical justice in the concerns of men, than the fool, in his folly, dreams of, or the knave, in his cunning, wots of. Macbeth's reflection,

—“This even-handed justice  
Commends the ingredients of our poisoned chalice,  
To our own lips,”

is as happy for its profound truth as for the felicity of its language. If such attacks ever proceed from any member of the profession, for the honor of the cloth, they are certainly to be deplored; but, for the dignity of the profession, they should be treated with the contempt they merit. How ignorance is to exalt, or knowledge to debase, a profession, the ignorant alone can be made to feel. It is true, minds are to be found so narrow, and, withal, so vain, as to imagine that a profession receives its respectability from them, instead of the reverse being the case; and such may well desire to see their inferiors ill-informed; but where ignorance is commendable is no place for the instructed.

The writer confesses that he cannot share the forebodings of the gallant General in the decadence of the military spirit in our little army from the circumstance of some ten or twenty of its officers being employed as instructors in the Military Academy; but is rather inclined to think that this connection will be to the mutual advantage of the teacher and the taught. If the reputation of the service has lately suffered in public estimation, the causes might perhaps be found elsewhere than in the one pointed out by the gallant General.

#### ONE OF THE SCHOOLMASTERS.

FEB. 14, 1838.

#### GENERAL JESUP.

I am sorry to see such a disposition to abuse Gen. Jesup, and such lukewarmness among his well wishers in his defence. He is reproached with having done nothing, or no more than has been done by others before. This I apprehend to be a great error. Those who preceded him did probably all that their means and limited knowledge of the country permitted. But Gen. Jesup has had greater means and greater knowledge, and more was to be expected from him; and more he has certainly done. His campaign began about the middle of November; he had not the troops to begin before, for the great majority of them came in during that month. His weakness and the sickness of the troops had compelled him to vacate most of the country during the summer. A line drawn from St. Augustine through Black creek and down to Fort King, and thence to the Suwanee, was the southern boundary of our occupation, excepting Tampa and New Smyrna, insulated points.

Gen. Jesup's plan was to sweep down the peninsula—drive it, as the hunters say. One column moved from St. Augustine, clearing the country between the coast and the St. John's. This was done by Gen. Hernandez, who terminated his operations at Indian river, where he joined Gen. Jesup and the main body, having left probably not a dozen Indians in his rear—perhaps not one.

On the west side of the St. John's (a much wider field for operations,) large bodies of volunteers were directed to scour, and march to and fro. The Ocklawaha and the Outhlacoochee afford extensive shelters on that side, and notwithstanding all that has been done there, (rather miscellaneous in its character from the character of the troops) there no doubt still lurk many small bodies, on and about those rivers; but they have been harmless, and scarcely showed their heads.

At the same time, Col Taylor moved from Tampa Bay interior, easterly; while Col Smith did the same from Charlotte harbor, northeasterly.

Gen. Jesup moved with the central force up the St.

John's; his facilities for movement were uncommonly great, arising from the length of the navigable, or boatable, waters of that river. Still, however, with the large body of horse he had with him, the ascent was necessarily slow; but it was effected in due time to co-operate with the other columns. At Fort Taylor, on lake Poinsett, (some 250 miles above Black creek) he was obliged to leave the river, its facilities ending there, and take to his train and pack horses. With these he pushed as rapidly as practicable to the head waters of that river, and near there opened a communication with the other columns, all of which from that time began to act in concert around the Okee-chobee lake, where the enemy had retired.

The country has thus been cleared from two to three hundred miles; its occupation by our troops, and the expulsion of the enemy, having been thus far in a measure complete. Marches through the country were before generally made with little other effect than clearing out the line of march; it was like running a stick through the water, the space behind it immediately filling up.

Col. Taylor is the only commander who has met the enemy in force. They left their trail leading to their chosen position, which was, as they no doubt anticipated, followed up until every Indian, posted behind some covert, made his deliberate shot; when pressed, as they soon were, they scattered. Thus begins and ends nearly every fight with these Indians. They are always on the edge of a hammock, generally (in fact I might say always) too large to be surrounded. It may be asked, 'Why take the bull at once by the horns? why did not Col. Taylor endeavor to attack the flanks, and reserve his front?' I do not know the localities, but the probability is, that he did not discover their exact position, until he received their fire, and most of the slaughter was made.

The public is disappointed and dissatisfied, because no brilliant and decisive victories have been achieved. It may not be aware that such victories are nearly out of the question. The country is mostly open; the enemy has an espionage over the whole of it; all our movements are well known; and he is met, or is not, at his will. What then had the General to do? Only to occupy the country, and narrow down the enemy to the smallest compass; and this has been done most successfully! There is reason to believe that few Indians are to the north of Okee-chobee lake, which is said to be an extensive sheet of water, filling up a large space in the centre of the peninsula there, and leaving at the east and west sides only a strip of ground, some twenty or thirty miles in width. These two strips are now well guarded, by Col. Smith on the west, and by Gen. Jesup and Col. Taylor on the north and east. Gen. Jesup was last at Jupiter inlet, or near there, having had a skirmish with the enemy on the St. Lucie, where Lieut. Powell had his fight. No stand was made before the General, as the Indians knew he was in force. They may retreat towards Cape Florida; but we have supplies there to meet the wants of the army, should it reach that point.

From this hasty sketch it will be seen that much has been done by Gen. Jesup, and that he has fair chances of doing yet more. I hope and think he will. He has been most devoted to his duties—never was General more so—he has spared neither mind nor body. The public will never have a more zealous, active, and faithful public servant, although it gives him little else than reproaches, sneers, or condemnation, making no allowance for the character of the country—broken, desolate, and unknown—in which he has had to operate; and the character of the enemy—brave, skilful, and determined, to a Roman degree—he has had to deal with. We all wish the war was over.

#### NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.

MR. EDITOR: Your correspondent at Pensacola, M. N. K., appears to be actuated by a laudable de-

sire to improve the navy of the United States, and proposes to raise a society to assist the practical skill of the country in the construction of ships of war. A society, composed of theoretical and practical knowledge, would render great service to the navy; but I would respectfully propose to your correspondent another course, in doing which I am not to be supposed hostile to the project of M. N. K.; but I think it of more importance to the country that the one which I am about to propose should be first adopted. Your correspondent thinks favorably of French ships of war, and if he will enquire for the cause that makes them superior, he will find it in the organization of the department of construction. If the department of construction in this country is put on the same footing as it is in France, the same results will be had here. It is the perfect organization of the bureau of construction in France which has given so much celebrity to her ships of war. Let the same organization, though on a less extended scale, be adopted in this country, and the same beneficial results will be experienced. The plan, at present, would be simple; establish a bureau of construction, at the head of which there should be a naval architect, with the necessary number of assistants. Give to this bureau the sole power of constructing ships of war, and determining on the masts, spars, and ballast; the bureau to be responsible only to the Secretary of the Navy; and to give due importance and respectability to the chief, he should be appointed by the President and Senate.

The foregoing remarks were made after reading No. 2 of your Pensacola correspondent. Your last paper contains his No. 3. Perhaps I may say something on this piece in your next. All I have to say to M. N. K. at present, is, *go on*. Rescue the department of construction from the vassalage it is now in; and if you accomplish what you propose, you will deserve the thanks, not only of the navy, but of the whole country. X. Y. Z.

#### SLOOPS OF WAR.

MR. EDITOR: Several of our sloops of war are said to be dull sailers. There are four which, from their form, cannot sail fast, and there are six that sail well. From information received, it appears that the orders for the construction of these vessels restricted the draft of water, and in complying with this requisition, some of them were made dull sailers. If the orders restricting the draft had not been modified by the constructor at Philadelphia, *all*, instead of a part, of the sloops would have been dull sailers. The restrictions imposed as to the draft, determined the character of the vessels; great capacity being essential for a restricted draft of water, and great capacity is antagonistical to fast sailing.

The six sloops referred to are the Boston, Vincennes, Fairfield, Vandalia, St. Louis, and John Adams. These vessels are similar in dimensions and form, and ought to sail alike; and they would do so, if the stowage, draft of water, and management at sea, were similar. The Boston is now and always has been a fast sailing vessel. The Vandalia, a ship of similar dimensions and form, with the same spars, ought to sail as well as the Boston, but she is put down by your Pensacola correspondent as a dull sailer. The report from the commander of this ship, on her first cruise, gave flattering accounts of her performance; she sailed fast and worked quick. The same character was given of the Vincennes on her first cruise in the Pacific; and so with the John Adams.

Constructors are sometimes censured without cause, the fault being not always with them, but in the stowage of the ship, or management at sea, or perhaps both. Take the frigate United States as an illustration of this assertion. From bad stowage, and other causes, the ship became a dull sailer, and she was called the "Old Wagon." A new commander was



appointed, different arrangements were made in the hold and on deck, and the ship immediately became what she formerly had been, one of the fastest ships afloat.

If fast sailing was to be the only object in the construction of a ship, there would be no difficulty in attaining it; but there are other qualities to be attended to of equal importance. There are many subjects to be considered in the construction of a ship of war, many desirable qualities to combine, which are directly opposed to each other.

My object, in the outset, was to give the result of inquiries made in relation to the construction of some of the sloops of war, and it has resulted in the information that the sloops of war, Boston, Vincennes, Fairfield, Vandalia, St. Louis, and John Adams, with the Cyane and Levant lately launched, were built from designs furnished by the Chief Constructor. The drawings for the six were made by that gentleman in 1825, when he held the office of Constructor at the Philadelphia navy yard. The Cyane and Levant are larger vessels than the others, though carrying a lesser number of guns, and they are, or were intended to be, alike in dimensions and form.

The paternity of the Warren, Natchez, Falmouth, and Lexington, with the schooner Experiment, must be sought for in some other quarter. H.

#### BATTLE OF THE KISSIMMEE—THE ARMY.

"Honor to whom honor is due."

MR. EDITOR: I have just read, with feelings of the deepest emotion, Col. Taylor's official report of the battle of the Kissimmee, between the Seminole Indians and a party of our gallant little army.

I do think that too much praise cannot be bestowed upon our army in Florida. When was there ever moral courage displayed, equal to this? Tell me not of the daring deeds of Xerxes; of the noble sacrifices of Hannibal's army; of the bloody field of Borodino; of the noble exertions of our forefathers, in accomplishing our independence; of the desperate deeds of Thermopylae; all had incentives to bear them up in their darkest hour. But what is to repay the worn-out soldier of Florida? If his life is spared, it may, and probably will, be with a ruined constitution. And what prospect has he that his arduous services will be adequately repaid? None, none! To drag out a miserable existence, with a body enfeebled by disease, and ended, most probably, in poverty! What incentive has he then to bear his spirit up amid the midnight dangers which continually beset his path? What incentive to such noble deeds of daring as characterized this battle? The consciousness "I have done my duty." Then tell me, where is the moral courage equal to this? I confess I have yet to learn the definition of "moral courage," if an equal amount has ever been displayed by any army before. This I know is strong language, but I defy its contradiction.

Now, Mr. Editor, I wish to call the attention of your readers, and I would, if I could, call the attention of our whole country, to the fact that every officer of the 6th regiment of infantry, which has covered itself with so much glory in this sanguinary fight, was a graduate of West Point. Tell me, ye enemies of this noble institution, where are your blushes?

Again has the value of this institution been sealed by the life blood of her sons. A Thompson, a Van Swearingen, a Brooke, a Center, have set this seal! What more is wanting to attest its everlasting claims to the fostering care of our country? If our liberties are sustained in the hour of peril, I predict that the graduates of the military academy will be their supporters.

And now, sir, let me ask, will our republic confirm the stigma of *ingratitude*, by not rewarding such merit as is always displayed by our noble little army? Will they always be left in poverty? Forbid it justice, forbid it humanity!

P

#### DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

*From the Detroit Daily Advertiser.*

We learn from undoubted authority, that the patriots who have been straggling along the lake shore since the abandonment of Navy Island, and dispersion at Buffalo, have reached this frontier, and are now somewhere in the vicinity of Gibraltar. It is thought that there are over three hundred. Their place of destination is not known, but it is conjectured that they contemplate another attack on the Canadian frontier, somewhere between this city and Malden. We are told that Gen. Van Rensselaer was at Monroe yesterday. Of course much alarm exists on the other side. There are at Malden between four and five hundred regular British troops, and orders have been issued for the return of the militia which had been disbanded.

In order to preserve our neutrality, and to prevent a recurrence of the difficulties which disturbed the frontier a few weeks ago, Gen. Brady, in pursuance of instructions from Gen. Scott, has made a requisition on Gov. Mason for six companies of militia.

Duncombe and Sutherland are in the vicinity of this place.

We have been politely furnished by Adjutant General Schwarz, with the following general orders:

HEAD QUARTERS, 6th Mil. Dep't.

*Detroit, Feb. 10, 1838.*

SIR: I have the honor to request that you will, at the earliest convenience, detach, by volunteering or draft, to be mustered into the service of the United States, for three months, unless sooner discharged, a portion of the Michigan Militia, as follows:

"Field and Staff, one Lieut. Colonel, one Major, one Surgeon, and one Surgeon's Mate, one Adjutant, one Drum Major, one Fife Major, and six companies.

"Each company to consist of one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Ensign, or Second Lieutenant, three Sergeants, four Corporals, and sixty-four privates.

"This call is made on you for the purpose of preserving the neutrality of the United States with the Government of Great Britain, which I am fearful, from the information I received last night, without such force, cannot be maintained.

"I am, sir, very respectfully, your obdt serv't.

"H. BRADY, *Brig. Gen. U. S. A.*

"To his Excellency Gov. MASON."

"Major General John R. Williams, commanding 1st Division, is hereby directed to furnish from his command, one Major, one Surgeon, one Surgeon's mate, one Drum Major, one Fife Major, and five companies, each company to consist of one Captain, one First Lieutenant, one Ensign or Second Lieutenant, three Sergeants, four Corporals, and sixty-four privates, the privates to be taken by draft or volunteers, the latter mode of which would be preferred, to rendezvous with all possible despatch at Gibraltar.

"In like manner the commanding officer of the 2d Regiment, 3d Division, will furnish one company, consisting of one Captain, one First Lieutenant, and one Ensign or Second Lieutenant, and three Sergeants, four Corporals, and sixty-four privates, to rendezvous as above.

"The whole detachment, consisting of six companies, to be under command of Col. Henry Smith, who will appoint an adjutant, and who will, as soon as the detachment is duly organized, report for inspection and muster into the service of the United States for three months, unless sooner discharged, to Brigadier General H. Brady, U. S. A.

"By order of the Commander-in-Chief:

"J. E. SCHWARZ, *Adjutant General.*"

**LOWER CANADA FRONTIER.**—The Franklin (Vt.) Messenger, at St. Albans, of Thursday, has the following:

Three armed Tories came across the line, at Highgate, last Thursday; what their object was we do not learn. General Wool, we understand, after making an inquiry into the subject, sent Lieut. Miller, day before yesterday, with despatches, informing the commanding officer at Mississippi Bay that a repetition of such an act would be productive of serious consequences.

Gen. Wool, of the U. S. army, his aid-de-camp, Lieut. Smith, and Lieut. Miller, Q. M., in company with Gov. Jennison and Mr. Manser, Secretary of State, arrived in town on the 24th ult., for the purpose of ascertaining whether it was necessary to call out a military force to prevent further aggression upon our territory from armed Canadian subjects. They visited Swanton and Highgate the next day. In compliance with a request of Gov. Jennison and Gen. Wool, a meeting of delegates from the several towns on the frontier, was held in this village on the 26th ult., to ascertain their opinion as to the necessity of placing troops on the frontier. It was concluded that if the General Government would place arms and ammunition in the hands of the people, they could protect themselves; otherwise they would abide by the decision of those "in authority."

Gov. Jennison and Secretary Manser returned on Saturday. Gen. Wool, we understand, will remain here until an answer to the request of the people for arms, &c., is obtained from the General Government, and, in the mean time, will adopt such measures as seem most advisable to preserve inviolate the laws of neutrality.

(Orders, No. 12.)

HEAD QUARTERS, EASTERN DIVISION, }  
Buffalo, Jan. 31, 1833. }

The detachment of Brigadier General RANDALL's brigade of New York State Artillery, mustered into the service of the United States, having been honorably discharged from the same, excepting one company, (that of Captain ROBB,) the Brigadier General himself, and his staff, excepting his Aid-de-camp, Captain Lord, and his Quartermaster, Captain Prince, are hereby also honorably discharged.

Major General SCOTT cannot part with Brig. General RANDALL, without tendering to him in behalf of the United States, his best thanks for the zeal, promptitude, and ability, with which he has handsomely performed every duty required by the critical events which have recently agitated this frontier. To his officers and men—discharged and retained in service—great praise is also due for like good conduct, and the Major General expresses his hearty wishes for a happy meeting with their families and friends, on their return from an important service.

Captain Lord, temporarily retained in the service, will report to general head quarters, to which he is attached as a volunteer aid-de-camp, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly; and Captain Prince will continue to perform the duties of Quartermaster and Acting Commissary of Subsistence, until further orders.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT,  
E. D. KEYES, Lt. and A. D. C.

(Extract from Orders, No. 16.)

HEAD QUARTERS, EASTERN DIVISION, }  
Buffalo, Feb. 7, 1833. }

From and after to-morrow, Brig. General BURT and his staff, with one exception, to be herein made, will consider themselves honorably discharged from the service of the United States.

His Quartermaster, Captain FARNHAM, is retained in service until further orders, and will continue to act as such, and as assistant commissary of subsistence.

All the orders necessary to carry the foregoing reduction into effect, will be given by Lieut. Colonel Worth, of the U. S. Army, who is charged with the immediate command of this frontier, during the temporary absence in the interior, of the Major General of the Eastern Division.

In taking leave of the Brigadier General, his officers and men—whether discharged or temporarily retained in the service—Major Gen. SCOTT tenders to him and them, the thanks of the U. States, for the promptitude with which they rallied from their homes to the support of law and order, and for the defence of this frontier.

Since taken into the service of the U. S., the brigade has continued to exhibit the most praiseworthy zeal and orderly conduct, under the excellent example of its commander—Brigadier General BURT.

Capt. Lord, the volunteer Aid-de-camp of Major General SCOTT, will also consider himself as honorably discharged from the service of the U. States, from and after to-morrow. He will please accept, for the zeal and intelligence he has displayed in that connexion, the public thanks of his chief.

Lieut. Talcott of the army, acting Aid-de-camp to the Major General, is temporarily transferred to the staff of Lt. Colonel Worth.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT,  
E. D. KEYES, Lt. and A. D. C.

The Washington correspondent of the New York American, under date of the 20th ult., writes as follows:

"A plan is under consideration to erect in this city a large building for the purpose of receiving the various kinds of plants, seeds, etc., collected by the officers of our navy in foreign countries. About a year ago, an order was issued to that effect, and which has been complied with as soon as practicable, the captains of our vessels of war having exerted themselves with a noble emulation in procuring rare and valuable specimens of many hundred plants, hitherto unknown in this country. But owing to there being no depository for them, their exertions have been rendered almost useless, and to a great extent they have perished on their hands, for the want of some means of imparting to the public the benefits they had designed to confer. It is, however, hoped that this difficulty will soon be obviated, and an arrangement made which will prove highly beneficial to the agricultural community.

"The Commissioner on patents is anxious that it should be connected with that Department. He says the Patent office is constantly crowded with men of enterprise, who, when they bring the models of their improvements in implements of husbandry, are eager to communicate a knowledge of every other kind of improvement in agriculture, and especially new and valuable varieties of seeds and plants. The great dissertation at the present time seems to be, that some place should be designated and known as the depository of all articles of this kind, whence they may be dispensed to every part of the Union."

*Correspondence of the Albany Argus.*

ADAMS, Jefferson Co., Feb. 18, 1833.

The state arsenal at Watertown was broken open last evening, and some 500 muskets taken out. Fairbanks, who is the keeper, has offered \$250 for the recovery of them.

There begins to be some excitement here upon the subject of Canada. Many loads of men and provisions have been and are now passing here for the north.

Forty-one of the Queen's troops, belonging to a party of 800, who had been ordered from Halifax to Canada, perished from exposure to cold. They encountered a severe storm, and travelled for seven days without shelter on snow shoes. Many others were badly frozen.



The names of Scott and Worth, alone, have contributed more to arrest the Border difficulties, than the combined civil authorities of the country. Here, near the field of their brilliant achievements in the last war, is an abiding recollection of their services; and no sooner was their arrival announced on the frontier, than public tranquillity was in a measure restored.

We will add, also, that the prompt and energetic conduct of Col. Worth, in his late expedition up the lake, is worthy of all praise. Through his vigilance and alacrity, the arms of the state have been mainly recovered, and the contemplated invasion of Canada entirely frustrated. The difficulties encountered by him in ascending to Detroit, were overcome by that perseverance and enterprise, for which he is so peculiarly distinguished.—*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser*.

**MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS.**—Three companies of troops, part of those in the engagement of the 25th ult., were landed yesterday morning at Jefferson Barracks, from the steamer *Pirate*. They were about fifty in number, under the command of Lieuts. C. B. Rogers, A. Vallandigham, F. Jackson, and J. Gordon. They returned on account of wounds and sickness. The *Pirate* found great difficulty in prosecuting her passage through the ice.—*St. Louis Bulletin*, Feb. 14.

Major General Scott, U. S. A., accompanied by Lieut. Keyes, A. D. C., arrived in Albany on Monday night, 18th ult., and took lodging at Congress Hall. He left town in the cars, on Tuesday morning for the western frontier.

The citizens of Albany paid General Scott the well merited compliment of a public supper on Thursday evening, 15th ult., at Congress Hall, where he was spending a day or two on his return from the frontier. The movement was too sudden and spontaneous to allow time to invite an extensive company, but the party was still numerous and respectable. Lieutenant Governor Taylor presided at table, and John A. King, Esq., of the assembly, assisted as vice-president. Gov. Marcy soon joined the company, as did a number of members of both houses of the legislature. The supper was got up in a fine style, notwithstanding the shortness of the notice, and every thing passed off most pleasantly.

The U. S. steamer *Poinsett*, Capt. Trathen, from Baltimore, touched at Old Point on Tuesday, 20th ult., and sailed again for Garey's Ferry (E. F.) with a detachment of U. S. troops, under the command of Lieut. J. H. Miller, 4th Artillery.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS, IN RELATION TO THE ARMY, NAVY, &c.

##### BILLS REPORTED.

H. R. 571—No Report.

FEBRUARY 20, 1833.

Read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. INGHAM, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, report the following bill:

A BILL for reducing under one head of appropriation various appropriations for building, rebuilding, reducing, purchasing, and repairing vessels of war, and for providing materials for the same.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That all appropriations and all remaining balances of appropriations, heretofore made for building, rebuilding, replacing, purchasing, and repairing vessels of war, or other vessels for the use of the navy, or for the purchase of timber, ordnance, or any other articles for building, arming, equipping, or repairing vessels of the navy, or for the repairs of vessels in ordinary, repairs and wear and tear of vessels in commission, together with any materials which have been or may be collected under any of the said appropriations, be, and the

same are hereby, transferred to one head of appropriation, to be called the appropriation for the increase, repair, armament, and equipment of the navy, and wear and tear of vessels in commission; and the amount of said appropriation, and of such other as may be made hereafter for these purposes, and of the materials which have been or may be collected for the same, may be expended and used by the Secretary of the Navy in building, replacing, repairing, arming, equipping, and employing any vessels which Congress may have authorized, or may hereafter authorize, to be built, rebuilt, purchased, or replaced, in such manner as the interests or necessity of the service may require.

*Sec. 2. And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Navy to cause to be laid before Congress annually, as soon after the beginning of each year as practicable, a statement of the amounts expended during the preceding fiscal year for wages of mechanics and laborers employed in building, repairing, or equipping vessels of the navy, or in receiving and securing stores and materials for those purposes; and for the purchase of materials and stores for the same purposes; a statement of the cost or estimated value of the stores on hand, under this appropriation, in the navy yards at the commencement of the next preceding fiscal year; the cost, or estimated value of articles received and expended during the year; and the cost or estimated value of the articles belonging to this appropriation, which may be on hand in the navy yards at the close of the next preceding fiscal year.

H. R. 572—No Report.

FEBRUARY 20, 1833.

Read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. INGHAM, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the following bill:

A BILL to alter and regulate the navy ration.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the navy ration shall consist of the following daily allowance of provisions for each person: one pound of salted pork, with half a pint of peas or beans; or one pound of salted beef, with half a pound of flour, and a quarter of a pound of raisins, dried apples, or other dried fruits; so with half a pound of rice, two ounces of butter, and two ounces of cheese, fourteen ounces of biscuit, one-quarter of an ounce of tea, or one ounce of coffee, or one ounce of cocoa, two ounces of sugar, and one gill of spirits; and a weekly allowance of half a pound of pickles, or cranberries, half a pint of molasses, and half a pint of vinegar.

*Sec. 2. And be it further enacted*, That fresh meat may be substituted for salted beef or pork, and vegetables for the other articles usually issued with the salted meats: allowing one and a quarter pound of fresh meat for one pound of salted beef, or for one pound of salted pork, and regulating the quantity of vegetables so as to equal the value of those articles for which they may be substituted.

*Sec. 3. And be it further enacted*, That, should it be necessary to vary the above-described daily allowance, it shall be lawful to substitute one pound of soft bread, or one pound of flour, or half a pound of rice, for fourteen ounces of biscuit; half a pint of wine for a gill of spirits; half a pound of rice for half a pint of beans or peas; half a pint of beans or peas for half a pound of rice. When it may be deemed expedient by the President of the United States, Secretary of the Navy, commander of a fleet or squadron, or of a single ship, when not acting under the authority of another officer, on foreign service, the articles of butter, cheese, raisins, dried apples, or other dried fruits, pickles, and molasses, may be substituted for each other, or for spirits: *Provided*, The article substituted shall not exceed in value the article for which it may be issued, according to the scale of prices which are or may be established for the same.

*Sec. 4. And be it further enacted*, That, in cases of necessity, the daily allowance of provisions may be diminished or varied by the direction of the senior officer present in command; but payment shall be made to the persons whose allowance shall be thus diminished, according to the scale of prices which are or may be established for the same; but a commander who shall thus make a diminution or variation shall report to his commanding officer, and to the Navy Department the

necessity for the same, and the purser shall be furnished by the commander of the vessel with a written order, specifying the particular reductions or variations which may be made.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That no commissioned officer or midshipman, or any person under twenty-one years of age, shall be allowed to draw the spirit part of the daily ration; and all other persons shall be permitted to relinquish that part of their ration, under such restrictions as the President of the United States may authorize: and to every person who, by this section, is prohibited from drawing, or who may relinquish the spirit part of his ration, there shall be paid, in lieu thereof, the value of the same in money, according to the prices which are or may be established for the same.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the provisions of this act shall go into effect on the first day of January next; and any acts or parts of acts, which may be contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this act, shall be, and are hereby, repealed.

H. R. 573—Rep. No. 536.

FEBRUARY 20, 1838.

Read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. INGHAM, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the following bill:

**A BILL** to regulate the pay and emoluments of pursers in the navy.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That all purchases of slops, groceries, stores, and supplies of every description, for the use of the navy, as well for vessels in commission as for yards and stations, shall be made with and out of the public moneys appropriated for the support of the navy, under such directions and regulations as may be made by the Executive for that purpose; and it shall not be lawful for pursers, or other officers or persons holding commission and employment in the naval service, to procure stores or any other articles or supplies for, or dispose thereof to, the officers or the crew, during the period of their enlistment, on or for their own account or benefit; nor shall any profit or per centage upon stores or supplies be charged to or received from persons in the naval service, other than those which are hereinafter prescribed.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the Executive to provide such rules and regulations for the purchase, preservation, and disposition of all articles, stores, and supplies for persons in the navy, as may be necessary for the safe and economical administration of that branch of the public service, and to prescribe the advance or per centage which shall be added to the cost thereof, and charged to the persons to whom the same may be furnished, disposed of, and disbursed: *Provided*, That such advance or per centage shall be no greater than may be deemed sufficient to meet the ordinary and usual losses and wastage upon the respective articles, and save the Government from expense and loss in purchasing, safe-keeping, and discharging the same.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That, in lieu of the pay, rations, allowances, and other emoluments authorized by the existing laws and regulations, the annual pay of pursers shall be as follows, viz: when attached to vessels in commission for sea service, they shall receive, for ships of the line of three decks, four thousand dollars; for ships of the line of two decks, three thousand five hundred dollars; for razees and frigates of the first class, three thousand dollars; for frigates of the second class, two thousand five hundred dollars; for sloops of war and steam vessels of war, two thousand two hundred dollars; for vessels smaller than sloops of war, but carrying not less than six guns, eighteen hundred dollars; and for vessels carrying less than six guns, fifteen hundred dollars; when attached to navy yards or stations, or to receiving ships or vessels, not more than three thousand two hundred, nor less than one thousand eight hundred dollars; to be regulated by the President of the United States, having regard to the relative responsibilities and duties of the respective employments; and on all other duty, fifteen hundred dollars; on leave of absence, or waiting orders, twelve hundred dollars; and on furlough, six hundred dollars. And it is hereby expressly declared, that the yearly pay provided in this act is all the pay, compensation, and allowance that shall be received under any circumstances whatever,

by pursers, except one ration per day, when attached to vessels for sea service, and except, also, for travelling expenses, when under orders, for which ten cents per mile shall be allowed.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to affect the bonds which have heretofore been given by pursers in the navy, but the same shall remain in full force and effect, as if this law had not been passed; and the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized and required to demand and receive from them, or any of them, new bonds, with sufficient sureties, in all cases in which he may consider the same necessary and expedient; and in case any purser shall improperly neglect or refuse to give such new bond, it shall be the duty of the Executive to dismiss him forthwith from the service.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the rules and regulations which shall be made in conformity with the provisions of this act shall be laid before Congress at their next session.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall not be lawful for a purser in the navy to advance or loan any sum or sums of money, public or private, or any article or commodity whatever, or any credit, to any officer in the naval service, under any pretence whatever.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the provisions of this act shall go into effect on the first day of January next; and any acts or parts of acts which may be contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions of this act, shall be, and are hereby, repealed.

## NAVY.

### ORDERS.

Feb. 21—Lt. Joel Abbot, relieved from order to proceed to coast of Brazil.

*Additional officers ordered to the ship Levant.*

Lieutenants, H. W. Morris, R. L. Browning, Geo. Hurst, Charles Green.

Surgeon, W. F. Patton. Passed. Asst. Surgeon, J. F. Sickels.

Acting Master, E. W. Stull.

Midshipmen, E. C. Kennedy, J. H. Moore; J. P. McFarland, J. W. A. Nicholson, Fenwick Stenson.

Asst. Surgeon, R. Woodworth, relieved.

### VESSELS REPORTED.

Ship Independence, Com. Nicolson at Rio Janeiro, Dec. 28. Brig Dolphin, Lieut. Comdt. Slidell, for Bahia, would sail in 7 days. Ship Fairfield, Comm'r. Mayo, was still at Bahia, all well.

Ship Concord, Com'r Fitzhugh, sailed from Pensacola on the 17th ult., and the schr. Grampus, Lt. Comdt. Peck, bearing the broad pendant of Com. Dallas, appeared off the harbor at the same time.

Revenue Cutter Taney, Capt. Webster, arrived at Norfolk on the 22d ult. from a cruise.

Cutter Washington, Capt. Hunter, at Norfolk, 23d ult. from a cruise of 18 days.

## MARRIAGE.

On the 24th ult. G. W. FEATHERSTONHAUGH, Jr. Esq. to VICTORINE, eldest daughter of Col. A. L. ROUMFORD, of Frankford Arsenal.

## DEATHS.

At Charlotte Court House, Va., on the 6th ult. in the 4th year of his age, NASH LE GRAND, Esq. late Navy Agent at Norfolk.

In Washington City on the 22d ult. JOHN CLEMENT GRAHAM, late of the U. S. Navy, in the 25th year of his age.

In this city, on Monday evening last, WILLIAM EDWARD, son of Lieut. E. A. CAPRON, of the U. S. Army, aged eleven and a half months.

At Havana, on the 8th ult. Mr. JOHN WILMOT GETTY, in the 25th year of his age, late captain's clerk on board the U. S. ship Boston, and eldest son of ROBERT GETTY, Esq., of the 4th Auditor's office.

At Buffalo, on the 20th ult., Dr. CYRENIUS CHAPIN, aged 66 years, an officer of the army during the last war.